

WRITING ASSESSMENT
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G 19a

Recently, a law was passed that requires all high school students to pass exit exams before they graduate from high school. Students are given exams at the end of a semester no matter what. These exit exams are just a different type of test on the class' entire material. Having to pass exit exams is a good idea because it lets the teacher know if the student has learned anything, gives the teacher a specific outline of things to teach, and helps to give students the most important aspects of the course.

First, required exams show teachers, schools, and states how much a student has taken in. By looking at test scores, a teacher can decide if their teaching or approach to teaching needs to be altered. The schools can see how well certain students are coping with classes. States can look at scores and see if a new law could help with their schools and students. Many things can be shown by the scores. For example, it could show how well students comprehend the material.

Next, required exams give teachers specific guidelines on what to teach students. It helps them plan out a semester by knowing what may be on the test. Many teachers may find this simpler than deciding on their own what coursework is important. Required exams are very helpful

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to teachers also because of the differences in students. Students learn differently, so it helps teachers decide. They help in many ways.

Finally, required exit exams give students the major part of the most important aspects of a course. In courses where exams are not required, students may not get as much detail as a course in which they must pass an exam. It helps students who find details important. Many feel that they are not challenged enough in a course. With required exit exams, a course becomes more challenging.

Exit exams are an important part of high school because they show what a student has absorbed, give the teachers specific material to teach, and teaches students the most important part of that subject. They also show schools and states how well the future generation is doing. Another helpful part of required exit exams is that they show colleges how well a student is doing. There are so many reasons required exit exams are important. Knowledge is the greatest kind of power. By passing a law requiring exit exams, the state is making sure that students have that power.

Score Point: 5

This response reflects a strong degree of proficiency in persuasive writing skills. The writer clearly agrees that exit tests should be required. Key ideas are provided to support this position (exit tests show what a student has learned, give teachers specific guidelines, and teach students the most important aspects of a course). The writer coherently develops the response through strong organization and explanation of key ideas. The conclusion is thoughtful and effective. Greater syntactic variety and more specific illustration of the key ideas would be required for a higher score.